

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Statement of Legal Newspaper Ownership and Circulation

RECEIVED

OCT 11 2007

Return to: Secretary of State, 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5077

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

1. TITLE OF NEWSPAPER Lakota Country Times		2. DATE 10-1-07
3. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE weekly	3A. NO. OF ISSUES PUBLISHED ANNUALLY 52	3B. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$ 60
4. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION (Street, City, County, State and ZIP+4 Code) (Not printers) 316 Main St. Suite A, Box 386, Martin, SD 57551		
5. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHER (Not printers) 316 Main St. Suite A, Box 386, Martin, SD 57551		
6. FULL NAME OF PUBLISHER: Amanda Takes War Bonnett		
7. OWNER (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and list on the back of this form the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">FULL NAME</p> <p>Thunderbird Media, Inc d.b.a Lakota Country Times</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS</p> <p>316 Main St. Suite A, Box 386, Martin, SD 57551</p> </div> </div>		
8. KNOWN BONDHOLDERS, MORTGAGES, AND OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS OWNING OR HOLDING 1 PERCENT OR MORE OF TOTAL AMOUNT OF BONDS, MORTGAGES OR OTHER SECURITIES (If there are none, so state. If more space is needed, list on back of this form. <div style="text-align: center;">None</div>		
9. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUED PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES ISSUED NEAREST TO FILING DATE
A. TOTAL NO. COPIES (Net Press Run)	3,900	3,900
B. PAID AND/OR REQUESTED CIRCULATION		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales.	2,223	2,223
2. Mail Subscription (Paid and or requested)	1,390	1,390
C. TOTAL PAID AND/OR REQUESTED CIRCULATION (Sum of 9B1 and 9B2)	3,613	3,613
D. FREE DISTRIBUTION		
1. BY MAIL, CARRIER OR OTHER MEANS	50	50
2. SAMPLES, COMPLIMENTARY AND OTHER FREE COPIES	50	50
E. TOTAL DISTRIBUTION (Sum of C, D1 and D2)	3,713	3,713
F. COPIES NOT DISTRIBUTED		
1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	37	37
2. Return from News Agents	150	150
G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and F2 -- Should equal net press run shown in A)	3,900	3,900

Statement must be signed by Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner in the presence of a Notary Public
I swear that the statements made by me are true, correct, and complete:

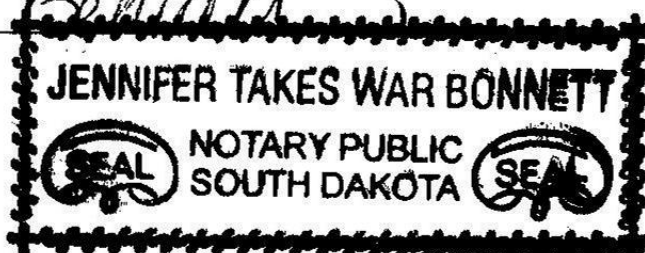
Jennifer Blanco
 (Signature)

Business Manager
 (Title)

State of South Dakota)

County of *Benett*)

(Seal)



Form: SOS REC 051 7/2004

Sworn to before me this 1 day of Oct., 2007

Jennifer Takes War Bonnett
 Notary Public

My commission expires: 10/08/10



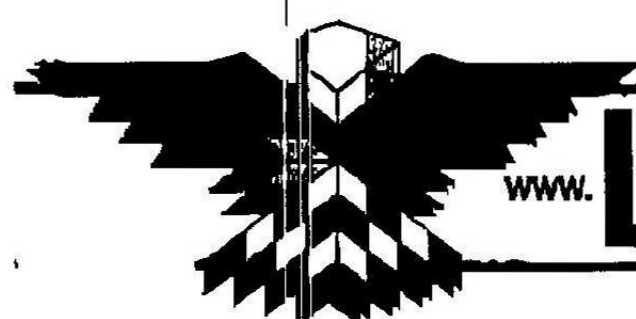
Stockholders:

Amanda Takes War Bonnett
Box 386
Martin, SD 57551

Connie Smith Blanco
Box 844
Martin, SD 57551

Loren Pourier
Box 386
Martin, SD 57551

Patricia A. Pourier
Box 386
Martin, SD 57551

**LAKOTA COUNTRY TIMES**

316 Main St. Suite A Box 386 Martin, SD 57551

Phone: 605-685-1868

Fax: 605-685-1870

Website: www.lakotacountrytimes.com**FAX**

TO: Chris Nelson
Secretary of State
FAX: 605-773-6580

DATE: 10-31-07

OF PAGES 3
INCLUDING THIS PAGE

FROM: ☐ Amanda Takes War Bonnett - Owner/ Editor/Publisher
email: lakota1868@gwtc.net
☒ Connie Smith Blanco - Owner/Business Manager/Marketing
email: production@lakotacountrytimes.com
☐ Manuel Blanco-Production/Circulation/Graphic Arts
email: production@lakotacountrytimes.com

ATTACHMENT (S): ☐ INSERTION ORDER ☐ INVOICE ☐ RECEIPT

F.Y.I.

I emailed a copy of your firm to SDNA
& Tim Huebner over a week ago and
received this by certified mail today.

Feel free to contact us anytime regarding your print advertising.
We look forward to speaking to you again, so that we, the Lakota Country Times Staff,
may be of service to you, our valued customer.

October 25, 2007

RECEIVED

OCT 31 2007

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

Connie Smith Blanco
Co-owner/Business Manager/Marketing
Lakota Country Times
P.O. Box 386
Martin, SD 57551

Dear Connie:

I received your e-mail dated October 12, 2007, regarding your legal newspaper status and comments you made regarding me. I also want to address comments you have made to my staff and to others about the South Dakota Newspaper Association, and your actions taken to have legal notices published in the Lakota Country Times while it was not a legal newspaper.

First issue; you said in your e-mail, you sent a copy of your letter from the Secretary of State to the school districts affected by phone calls by Mr. Huether and his attorney regarding this issue. Please note also, you spelled my name incorrectly in your e-mail. It is Huether.

You make it sound like we went out and did something wrong to get the legals back in our newspaper when you say, "school affected by calls from Mr. Huether."

Starting at square one, we received a call from the Fall River County Auditors office earlier in the year, saying the commissioners had decided to select the Lakota Country Times as the legal newspaper for Shannon County. The person calling was concerned because she did not think you were a legal newspaper. I told her I did not believe you were, but said she needed to call the Secretary of State's office. She asked about the South Dakota Newspaper Association's (SDNA) role as regulating this and I told her we had nothing to do with that, however, a newspaper must be a legal newspaper to belong to SDNA.

The county auditor call me about three days later and said she was told the Lakota Times was not and would be taking that to the commissioners, which she did, and they changed the official newspaper to the Bennett County Booster.

At this point Connie, you should have been well aware you were not a legal newspaper as far as the state of South Dakota was concerned.

Soon after that happened, I was talking with SDNA personnel about advertising orders and was told you called to ask about how to become a legal newspaper. She said you told her you believed Executive Director David Bordewyk and Tim Huether were working together to keep you from becoming a legal newspaper since I was the president of SDNA at the time. You said David had not responded to your calls and basically was blaming him for the Times not becoming a legal newspaper, or at least, being part of your problem.

I've worked with David for a few years on the board and one of his strengths, is his integrity and willingness to stand up to, and for any newspaper, for what is right. The Lakota Times has been publishing for more than three years yet you failed to even apply for legal newspaper status, all on your own. And, as I mentioned, it is the state you deal with to get your legal status.

I called David immediately after hearing what you told the SDNA employee and he said it was not true that he did not get back to you and felt he answered the questions you had asked when you called.

I have personally worked my butt off and bent over backwards to help anyone who asks, and run my newspaper with honesty, integrity and the heart of a newspaper person. I am a true newspaper person and that means someone who may not always see eye to eye with another newspaper, but would not do anything to hurt another newspaper's business, such as you insinuated.

After you were aware you were not a legal newspaper because of the Shannon County legals, you approached the Todd County School Board in July, requesting to be their legal newspaper. They illegally named the Lakota Country Times the school's newspaper, however, they were unaware it was illegal because you led them to believe you were a legal newspaper.

We received a call from a concerned board member saying he did not believe you were a legal newspaper and he voted against naming you the newspaper. We informed him we did not think you were but again said, call the Secretary of State's Office, which he and we did. We were both told, at that time, you had not even filed your paperwork with them, which was late July of this year.

Under state law, even if you were a legal newspaper, you would not qualify for the legal in Todd County, nor will you next year because of several factors in the laws, which you will need to read up on.

At this point, we contacted SDNA and our attorneys and a letter was sent from our attorney informing the Todd County School District they were in violation of state law. They were then forced to republish legal minutes and it could have led to other problems for the school because of your actions.

You called my manager in Mission and told her that if we did not stop saying things that were not true about them, you would get your attorney's on it. Of course, you did not call me, and my office is all of two blocks from yours. As much as you may want to believe it, we spend little to no time discussing your newspaper, however, when someone asks a question, such as, is the Lakota Country Times a legal newspaper, I am going to tell them the truth.

One of my customers in Martin recently said, "Tim, Connie was saying some things about you and the Booster that I didn't like and I'm letting you know, I'm not going to run ads with her any longer." I told him that I would not ask him or anyone to not run ads in any paper because of that. I told him that if he gets the results he needs for his investment, go for it and I believe he has advertised at least twice since. I told him, "I don't know what was said, but you know how I run my business and it's not by running others down." Connie, you worked here a short while and I was more than fair to you. You know how well I treat people and expect to be treated. After you quit here to take another job, you were soon wanting to come back to the Booster.

I am not sure when you were appointed the legal newspaper for the Shannon County Schools (separate entity from Shannon County mentioned earlier), but I was told it was in the past couple of months. We were called by another person who told us of this. I called the school and told them they need to check with the Secretary of State's Office because I did not believe you were a legal newspaper.

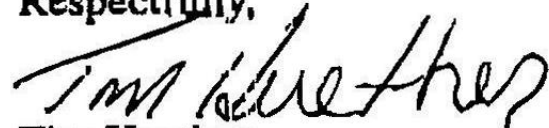
Unless I'm mistaken, you have continued to accept the legals and you will be in violation of state law as well as them. A letter will be going out to them today saying we are challenging the legal status and informing them that as far as I understand state law, they have only two options, the Hot Springs Star and the Bennett County Booster as their legal newspaper.

The first time you went after legals that we were receiving, I chalked it up to not understanding the law, but after three times, I feel you should be reported to the South Dakota Attorney General's Office. I'm guessing Lee Enterprises, the owner of the Hot Springs Star, will find this all interesting since they potentially lost revenue to your newspaper through your actions. A copy of this letter will be sent to them.

I strongly encourage you to get a copy of the many state laws regarding legal newspapers and keep in mind you must meet all the requirements, not just one. I would also suggest you double check on the date you are eligible to receive legals in your newspaper.

I am considering taking legal action regarding the loss of revenue that would have went to our newspapers. If it happens again, where you go in and convince an entity to make the Lakota Country Times the legal newspaper when you are not, I guarantee you, we will file a suit and an official complaint with the South Dakota Secretary of State and Attorney General's Office.

Respectfully,



Tim Huether
Owner
Bennett County Booster
Todd County Tribune
Mellette County News
P.O. Box 519
Martin, SD 57551

CC:

Keith Smit, Mormon Law Firm
Jon Arneson, SDNA legal council
David Bordewyk, SDNA Executive Director
Brad Slater, Publisher Rapid City Journal
Joyce Glynn, Publisher Todd County Tribune

17-2-2.1. Requirements for legal newspaper--Language--Size--Duration and frequency of publication. No publication is a legal newspaper for publishing legal and other official notices unless, for at least one year prior to publication of such notices, the publication is printed in the English language and contains at least four pages per issue, with at least one hundred twenty square inches of printed matter per page; and if the publication is a daily, is distributed at least five days each week, or if not a daily, is distributed at least once each week for at least fifty weeks each year. In any week in which there is a legal holiday, no more than four issues of a daily newspaper are necessary.

Source: SL 1985, ch 165, § 2.

Chapter 17-2

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10/11
10:00 a.m.
Connie
Sherry Blanco
Jensen
South Dakota
County
Jensen
SDNA

17-2-2.5. Ownership and circulation statements--Involuntary suspension of publication-- Existing legal newspapers. In order to maintain legal newspaper status, the newspaper shall publish and submit to the secretary of state before January first of each year a sworn statement of ownership and circulation on forms prescribed by the secretary of state. Continuous publication within the meaning of this section and §§ 17-2-2.1 to 17-2-2.4, inclusive, is not deemed to be interrupted by any involuntary suspension of publication resulting from loss, destruction, failure, or unavailability of operating facilities, equipment, or personnel from any cause, and any newspaper so affected is not disqualified as a legal newspaper if publication is resumed within one week after it again becomes possible. This section and §§ 17-2-2.1 to 17-2-2.4, inclusive, do not disqualify as a legal newspaper any publication which, prior to January 1, 1985, was a legal newspaper, so long as it continues to meet the requirements under which it previously qualified.

Source: SL 1985, ch 165, § 6.

Chapter 17-2

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This list sent to me by Susan Smith 8/3/07

South Dakota Newspapers Clipping List

Non-Daily Newspapers

Alcester Union & Hudsonite
Alexandria Herald
Arlington Sun
Armour Chronicle
Avon Clarion
Baltic Beacon
Belle Fourche Post
Belle Fourche Bee
Beresford Republic
Bison Courier
Bonesteel Enterprise
Brandon Valley Challenger
Bridgewater Tribune
Britton Journal
Bryant Dakotan
Buffalo / Nations Center News
Burke Gazette
Canistota Clipper
Canton / Sioux Valley News
Castlewood / Hamlin Co.
Republican
Chamberlain /
Central Dakota Times
Chamberlain/Oacoma Sun
Clark County Courier
Clear Lake Courier
Conde News
Corsica Globe
Custer Co. Chronicle
Deadwood / Lawrence Co. Journal
Dell Rapids Tribune
Delmont Record
De Smet News
Doland Times-Record
Eagle Butte/West River Eagle
Edgemont Herald-Tribune
Elk Point/Southern Union County
Leader-Courier
Elkton Record
Emery Enterprise
Estelline Journal
Eureka Northwest Blade
Faith Independent
Faulkton / Faulk Co. Record
Flandreau /
Moody Co. Enterprise
Freeman Courier
Garretson Weekly
Geddes / Charles Mix Co. News

Gettysburg / Potter Co. News
Gregory Times - Advocate
Groton Dakota Press
Groton Independent
Hartford Area News
Hayti / Hamlin Co. Enterprise
Highmore Herald
Hill City / Pennington Co.
Prevailer-News
Hot Springs Star
Hoven Review
Howard / Miner Co. Pioneer
Humboldt Journal
Ipswich Tribune
Irene / Tri-County News
Isabel Dakotan
Kadoka Press
Lake Andes Wave
Lake Preston Times
Langford Bugle
Lemmon / The Dakota Herald
Lemmon Leader
Lennox Independent
Leola / McPherson Co. Herald
Marion Record
Martin / Bennett Co. Booster II
McLaughlin / Corson/Sioux Co.
News-Messenger
Menno / Hutchinson Herald
Milbank / Grant Co. Review
Miller Press
Mission / Todd Co. Tribune
Mobridge Tribune
Montrose Herald
Murdo Coyote
Newell/Valley Irrigator
Dakota Dunes North Sioux
City Times
Onida Watchman
Parker New Era
Parkston Advance
Philip Pioneer Review
Plankinton / South Dakota Mail
Platte Enterprise
Pollock Prairie Pioneer
Presho / Lyman Co. Herald
Rapid City / Lakota/Dakota Journal
Redfield Press
Roscoe-Hosmer Independent
Rosholt Review

Salem Special
Scotland Journal
Selby Record
Sisseton Courier
South Shore Gazette
Springfield Times
Stickney Argus
Sturgis / Black Hills Press
Sturgis/Meade County
Times-Tribune
Tea & Harrisburg Champion
Timber Lake Topic
Tripp Star-Ledger
Tyndall Tribune & Register
Vermillion Plain Talk
Viborg Enterprise/Hurley Record
Volga Tribune
Wagner Post
Wall / Pennington Co. Courant
Waubay Clipper
Webster Reporter & Farmer
Wessington Times Enterprise
Wessington Springs True
Dakotan
White / Tri-City Star
White Lake / Aurora Co.
Standard
White River / Mellette Co. News
Wilmot Enterprise
Winner Advocate
Wolsey News
Woonsocket/
Sanborn Weekly Journal
Yankton /
Yankton County Observer

Daily Newspapers

☐ Aberdeen American News
☐ Spearfish / Black Hills Pioneer
☐ Brookings Register
☐ Huron Plainsman
☐ Madison Daily Leader
☐ Mitchell Daily Republic
☐ Pierre Capital Journal
☐ Rapid City Journal
☐ Sioux Falls Argus Leader
☐ Watertown Public Opinion
☐ Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan

SECRETARY OF STATE

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Pierre, South Dakota
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sdsos@state.sd.us
www.sdsos.gov



Chris Nelson
Secretary of State

Chad Heinrich
Deputy

October 11, 2007

Connie Blanco
Lakota Country Times
316 Main St STE A
Martin SD 57551

Dear Ms. Blanco:

This letter is to acknowledge that a Statement of Legal Newspaper Ownership and Circulation was filed in my office on October 11, 2007 for the Lakota Country Times. As you know, the requirement to file this document with the Secretary of State is found in SDCL 17-2-2.5 and is one of the requirements to be recognized as a "legal newspaper" in South Dakota.

You have also asked whether it is the responsibility of the Secretary of State to monitor compliance with the SDCL 17-2-2.5 requirement for the Statement of Legal Newspaper Ownership to be "published". This is not a responsibility of the Secretary of State.

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson
Secretary of State